

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

SUBJECT Hog Cholera, Erysipelas, Foot and Mouth and Sheep
Pox EpizooticsPLACE
ACQUIRED

USSR

DATE
ACQUIRED

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Q. You have previously supplied information concerning the incidence of
rinderpest in the USSR during the late 1920's and its later appearance
in cattle imported from Turkey in 1936 and 1937. Please describe the other important epizootics in the USSR which
occurred prior to your departure from the USSR and of which you have
first-hand knowledge.

- A. 1. All of Georgia was affected by the hog cholera epizootic which lasted
from the beginning of 1933 to the beginning of 1934. Ninety percent
of the swine population of Georgia either died or was butchered. Large
numbers of poultry and rabbits in Georgia also died and it was thought
for awhile that the same virus was killing both the swine and the other
animals. It was discovered later that the disease was a mixed virus
disease and that, while both swine and poultry were succumbing, they
were being killed by different agents. As I recall it, the poultry
and rabbits did not begin to sicken and die until sometime after the
swine population became afflicted. At that time the USSR did not have
a satisfactory hog cholera vaccine. A good vaccine has since been
developed, as I believe is generally well known.
2. In 1935 there was an erysipelas epizootic in Georgia which lasted for
three months. About 40 percent of the swine in Georgia were lost during
this period.
3. During 1935 and 1936, a serious foot and mouth disease epizootic affected
all of Georgia and Armenia, as well as Turkey. In both Georgia and Armenia
the losses were as follows: cattle, approximately 40 percent; sheep,
approximately, 40 percent; swine, 20 to 30 percent.

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4. In 1938, in the Dagestan area of the northern Caucasus, there was a sheep pox epizootic which resulted in a 100 percent loss of wool for that year. None of the sheep died, however. Veterinary students from all over the USSR were mobilized against this outbreak. [] a group of students from the Federal Veterinary College of Erevan which went to Dagestan. [] vaccinated 60 thousand lambs during the month [] in the area - two thousand a day. [] roubles a day for this work.
5. Up until [] (late 1941), there were sporadic outbreaks of Piroplasmosis (Texas fever) in both Georgia and Armenia. Losses were not serious.

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